

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA  
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE  
AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

DIVISION OF BOTANY  
LOS ANGELES 24, CALIFORNIA

June 30, 1951

Dr. Joshua Lederberg  
Department of Genetics  
University of Wisconsin  
Madison, Wisconsin

Dear Josh:

Things have been very hectic here with trying to meet a deadline on my thesis and preparing for moving east. We are not certain about the meetings of the AIBS, for we shall be leaving here during the first part of August. Perhaps it will be possible to stop in madison to see you if you will be there. I hope that this can be done so that I can talk to you about getting the "proper" start in bacterial genetics.

I saw Stanier last week and he told me about the bombshell you released at Cold Spring Harbor. I don't recall that you mentioned it to me when I was in Madison. Stanier did not have time to give me an explanation of what happened so fill me in on it if you have the chance.

Buzzati is here with us for a few days and will discuss some of his interesting work on natural selection and mutation in Dros. There seems to be an indication that Strutevant's idea about natural selection reducing mutation rate in natural populations is not completely true. I think that Buzzati's work is showing this.

My thesis goes off to the committee next week and should be back by the end of July. Meanwhile I have a lab. to clean up and lectures to prepare for next semester. I hope, however, to spend a few days at Mather with Dobzhansky, for this may be my last trip to the Sierras for a long time.

Give my regards to Esther, and I hope that Liz and I will be able to see you in August.

Sincerely,

  
R.P. Levine